

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
Intercounty Connector Project

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no1. **Name:** (indicate preferred name)

historic Samuel S. Aitcheson Property

and/or common Walter Fehr Property

2. **Location:**

street & number 3911 Sandy Spring Road

☐ not for publication

city, town Burtonsville

☒ vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Montgomery

3. **Classification:****Category**☐ district☒ building(s)☐ structure☐ site☐ object**Ownership**☐ public☒ private☐ both**Public Acquisition**☐ in process☐ being considered☒ not applicable**Status**☒ occupied☐ unoccupied☐ work in progress**Accessible**☒ yes: restricted☐ yes: unrestricted☐ no**Present Use**☐ agriculture☒ commercial☐ education☐ entertainment☐ government☐ industrial☐ military☐ transportation☐ museum☐ park☐ private☐ residence☐ religious☐ scientific☐ other:4. **Owner of Property:** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Walter N. Fehr

street & number 3911 Sandy Springs Road

telephone no.:

city, town Burtonsville

state and zip code MD 20866

5. **Location of Legal Description**

Land Records Office of Montgomery County

liber 6728

street & number Montgomery County Judicial Center

folio 215

city, town Rockville

state MD

6. **Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. M:34-19 (PACS E1.6)

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="radio"/> excellent	<input type="radio"/> deteriorated	<input type="radio"/> unaltered	<input type="radio"/> original site	
<input type="radio"/> good	<input type="radio"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="radio"/> altered	<input type="radio"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" type="radio"/> fair	<input type="radio"/> unexposed			

Resource Count: 4

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Samuel S. Aitcheson Property is a 2-story, 4-bay side-gable cottage with bungalow features on the south side of Sandy Spring Road in the Burtonsville vicinity, Montgomery County. Constructed circa 1915, the building is rectangular in plan with a front and rear porch and two brick interior end chimneys.

The structure has a side-gable roof covered with standing seam metal, a front and rear shed dormer, wide eaves and an open cornice. It is of wood frame construction with asbestos shingle siding and it has a concrete covered foundation. The windows are 6/1 double-hung wood sash. The house has a shed roof porch on the front elevation. The porch is a replacement of the original, with a cinderblock foundation and a closed railing of cinderblock. Two square, wooden posts rest on the closed railing at the corners. The wide gable with overhanging eaves, shed roof dormers and multi-light casement and double-hung windows are some of the bungalow features present on this house.

The front, or north, facade has four bays. The first story entrance is off-center on the front elevation, located in the second bay; it has a panelled door with 9-lights and a wooden storm door. The fenestration pattern is asymmetrical, with three 6/1, double-hung windows on the first story. The second story has two 6/1, double-hung windows in the shed roof dormer. Alterations to the elevation include the replacement of the front porch and the covering of the exterior in asbestos shingles.

The fenestration pattern on the east elevation is irregular, with one panelled door and one 3-light fixed sash window on the basement level, while the first floor has two 6-light casement windows and one 6/1 double-hung sash window. The second story has two 4/1 double-hung sash windows.

The rear, or south, elevation has a 1-story, enclosed shed roof porch. The east portion of the porch is enclosed and has a 6/1 double-hung sash window on the east elevation and two 4-light casement windows on the south elevation. The west side of the porch is enclosed with jalousie windows. The second story has two 6/1 double-hung sash windows in the rear shed dormer.

The west elevation has four bays. The fenestration pattern is symmetrical, with two 3-light fixed sash windows on the basement level and four 6/1 double-hung sash windows on the first story. The second story has two 6/1 double-hung sash windows in the gable end.

There are three outbuildings associated with this building. The first outbuilding is a 2-story structure with a side-gable roof covered with standing seam metal with a garage and greenhouse addition. Constructed circa 1915, it is of wood frame construction. The structure is located south of the house. The second outbuilding is front-gable shed with a metal roof and vertical wood siding and is located west of the house. The third outbuilding is a modern gambrel roof shed located east of the house.

The property is located on the south side of Sandy Spring Road. The property was once used as a nursery and several greenhouses remain, as well as the gravel parking lot located to the rear of the house and a clearing where the retail area once was. The property's setting is within a highly developed suburban region with a large hardware store adjacent to the property and office buildings on the north side of Sandy Spring Road.

8. Significance

Survey No. M:34-19 (PACS E1.6)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	circa 1915	Builder/Architect
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check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D
 and/or
 Applicable Exceptions: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G
 Level of Significance: ___national ___state ___local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Samuel S. Aitcheson Property is part of 43.7 hectares (108 acres) of land which Robert and Sarah Elizabeth (Burton) Aitcheson sold to their son Samuel S. Aitcheson in 1916. Samuel Aitcheson possibly began construction of the side-gable cottage soon thereafter, on land located just east of the intersection of Sandy Spring Road and the Columbia Turnpike. Daniel Leroy Snyder owned the property from 1945 to 1971, which became known as the Snyder Farm. Champion Valley Farms purchased the property in 1971 and operated a nursery. The current owner bought the property in 1985 and continued to run a nursery until relocating the business a few years ago. The land is rented and used by a landscaping company, while the house is currently unoccupied.

The Samuel S. Aitcheson Property is located in the town of Burtonsville. Burtonsville was settled on land originally patented in 1703 as "Bear Bacon" and in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in what was then Prince George's County. "Bear Bacon" was approximately 245 hectares (605 acres) of land stretching from present Oursler Road to Old Columbia Pike. "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" was approximately 1214 hectares (3000 acres) of land from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel, and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. Later additions to the patent north and northwest of the present junction of U.S. 29 and MD. 198 eventually covered 3749 hectares (9265 acres) by 1743. (Geraci, Walker and Donnary 1976: 4; Cook, 1976: 270-271). As settlement in the new county increased, the need for improved roads became apparent. The Columbia Turnpike Company was chartered in 1809 to build a road from Georgetown, D.C. to Ellicott's Mills, and construction began in 1810 (present U.S. 29 and Old Columbia Pike follow the route of this original road) (Hiebert and MacMaster 1976, 107).

Burton family records indicate that their ancestors settled in the area by 1707. Basil Burton settled east of the turnpike in 1817. Basil's son, Isaac, considered the founder of the community, bought out his family's share of his father's land in 1825, and by 1850 the crossroads of the Columbia Turnpike and the Laurel-Sandy Spring Road was known as Burtons. The community remained small and rural in the decades after the Civil War. It had a population of about fifty people, a Baptist church, a blacksmith shop, a schoolhouse, and a store (Dixon-Williams 1994, A-4).

The automobile and an improved system of roads offered opportunity for suburban expansion; new communities appeared, in some cases quite distant from railroad and streetcar lines. Between

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Samuel S. Aitcheson Property

SURVEY NO.: M:34-19 (PACS E1.6)

ADDRESS: 3911 Sandy Spring Road, Burtonsville, Montgomery County

8. Significance (Continued)

1900 and 1930 the population of Prince George's County had doubled in size to 60,000 (M-NCPPC 1993:15). Montgomery County's population also increased in size during this period but not at a comparable rate (Montgomery County Government 1970:9 and State Planning Department 1968:67).

In 1920, the population of Montgomery County numbered 34,921 (Farquhar 1962:52). The Samuel S. Aitcheson Property is a side-gable cottage with bungalow features. Between 1870 and 1940 the vernacular cottage style was typically built for Americans of modest means. They are characterized by simple ornamentation and mass-produced components, such as door frames, moldings, sash and window units, and porch decoration. The development of post-Civil War machinery capable of producing large amounts of standardized housing elements, such as those found in cottages, contributed greatly to the development of the modern American housing industry. Designs for vernacular cottages were obtained from popular magazines, such as House Beautiful, or carpenter's and builder's journals, such as American Builder. A variety of front-gabled, side-gable, cross-gable and hipped roof frame cottages were developed in the early to mid-twentieth century. Front gable and hipped roof cottages are primarily one to one-and-a-half-stories tall, 3 bays wide and several rooms deep. Side-gable and cross-gable structures are usually two to two-and-a-half-stories tall, are typically two to three bays in width and vary from one to three rooms deep. They usually include a porch covered with a shed roof. Porches are supported by posts often containing machine-produced Victorian ornamentation. Some cottages feature ornamentation drawn from the Craftsman style or Colonial Revival architecture (Gottfried and Jennings 1988, viii-xv).

National Register Evaluation:

The Samuel S. Aitcheson House, constructed circa 1915, is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It does not meet Criterion A or B, as it has no known association with historically significant persons or events. It is not eligible under Criterion C, as the architectural integrity of the structure has been severely compromised through the replacement of the front porch, enclosure of the rear porch and the covering of the exterior in asbestos shingles. The setting of the property has been compromised by the construction of a modern commercial building and parking lot on an adjacent parcel to the west. In addition, the building is an undistinguished example of a common building type. Finally, the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, does not meet Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility Not Recommended XX

Comments _____

Reviewer, OPS: [Signature]

Date: 8/5/98

Reviewer, NR Program: [Signature]

Date: 8/27/98

[Signature]

9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No. M:34-19(PACS E1.6)

See Attached

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Beltsville

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Caroline Hall/Tim Tamburrino

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date October 1996

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposed only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
(410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Samuel S. Aitcheson Property

SURVEY NO.: M:34-19 (PACS E1.6)

ADDRESS: 3911 Sandy Spring Road, Burtonsville, Montgomery County

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

- Boyd, T.H.S. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1968.
- Brugger, Robert A. Maryland, A Middle Temperament 1634-1980. Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988.
- Coleman, Margaret Marshall. Montgomery County: A Pictorial History. Norfolk and Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers, 1984, rev. 1990.
- Daniels, Lee A. "Burtonsville: A town of the past trapped between the future." Washington Post. no date.
- Dixon-Williams, Gail. "Originally Burtons, this suburb has come a long way from 1800's." Burtonsville Gazette, 14 September 1994: A-4.
- Farquhar, Roger Brooke. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland. Washington: Judd and Detweiller, Inc., 1962.
- Geraci, Ron, Vicki Walker, and Linda Donnary. Old Building Survey of the Burtonsville Area. Burtonsville, Maryland: Burtonsville Bicentennial Committee, 1976.
- Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.
- Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including County of Montgomery, Maryland. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1879; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.
- Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.
- Martenet, Simon J. Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland. Baltimore, Maryland: Simon J. Martenet, 1865; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.
- Tindall, George Brown. America: A Narrative History. 2 vols. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1984.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

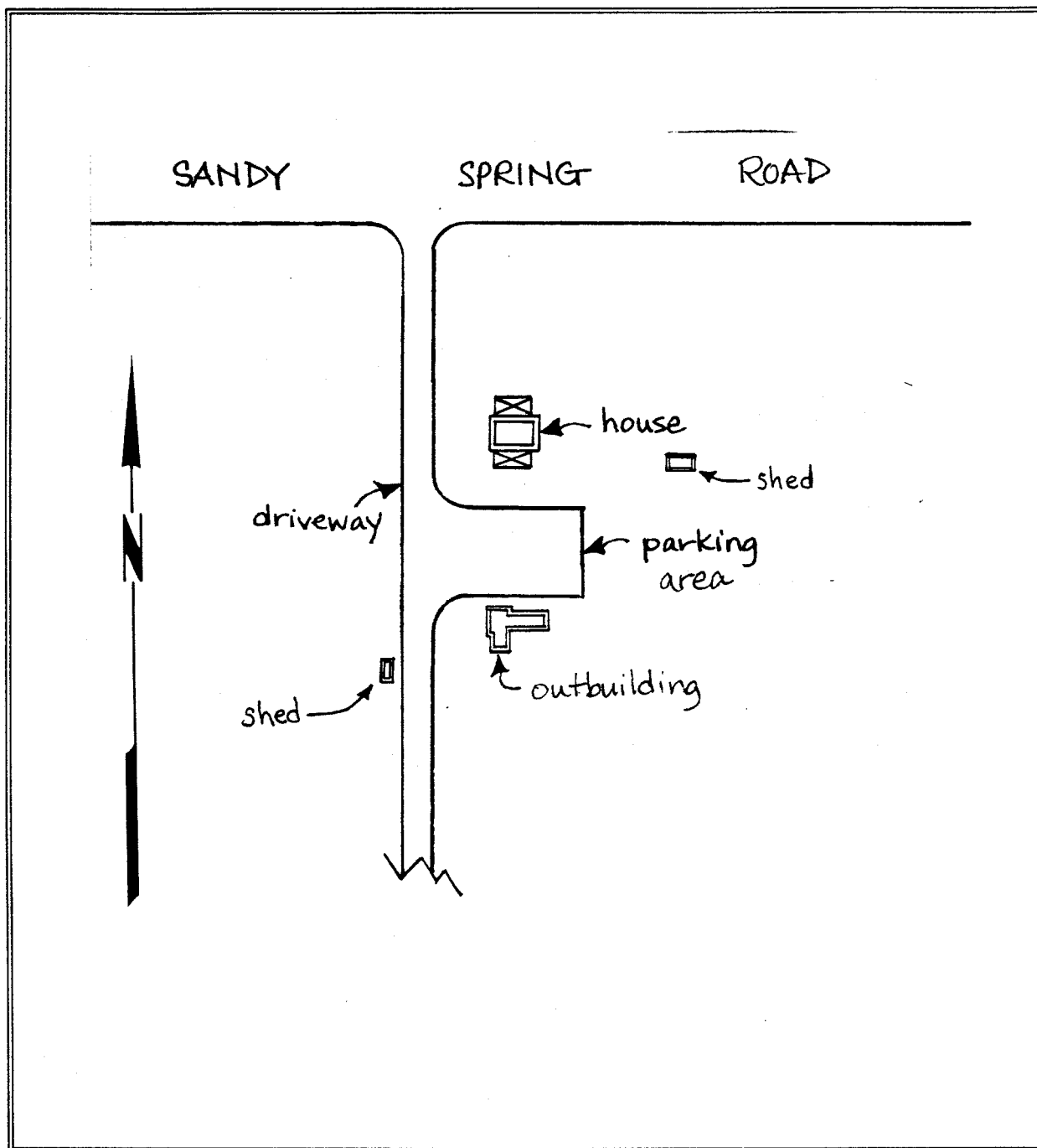
RESOURCE NAME: Samuel S. Aitcheson Property

SURVEY NO.: M:34-19 (PACS E1.6)

ADDRESS: 3911 Sandy Spring Road, Burtonsville, Montgomery County

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map



CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Samuel S. Aitcheson Property

SURVEY NO.: M:34-19 (PACS E1.6)

ADDRESS: 3911 Sandy Spring Road, Burtonsville, Montgomery County

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

11. Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

2. Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Building

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Dwelling

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

Preparer:
P.A.C. Spero & Company
October 1996

**Inter County Connector Project
Mid-County Alternative
Quad Beltsville,
Survey No. M-34-19 PACS# E1.6
Samuel S. Aitcheson Property**





M. 34-19

Samuel S. Atchison Property

2148



M. 3419



M34-19

2) Samuel S. Aitchison, Free L.

3) Henry M. ...

4) ...

5) ... 1996

6) L. A. Speer & Company, Jackson, MO 2224

7) 3211 ... Pt, ... elevation

8) 3 7 8



- 1) M: 34-19
- 2) Samuel S. Aitchison Property
- 3) Montgomery
- 4) Jim Lamberson
- 5) February 1996
- 6) P.A.C. Spew + Co. Tucson AZ
- 7) 5th Sandy Spring Rd. near elevation
- 8) 4 of 8



- 1) M: 34 19
- 2) Samuel S. Archeson Property
- 3) Montgomery
- 4) Lem Lamburn
- 5) Feb. 1946
- 6) P.A.C. Spero-Co, Towson MD
- 7) 3411 Sandy Spring Rd Outbuilding
- 8) 5 of 8



- 1) M: 34-19
- 2) "Samuel S. Archeson Property"
- 3) Montgomery
- 4) Jim Janowski
- 5) Feb. 1996
- 6) P. A. C. Spero + Company, Towson MD
- 7) 3911 Sandy Spring Rd, Act Building
- 8) 6 of 8



1) 11.34-19

2) Samuel S. Atcheson Property

3) Montgomery

4) Adrienne Cowden

5) Feb 1996

6) P A C SPERO & Co, Towson MD

7) 3911 Sandy Spring Rd. Outbuilding - shed

8) 7 of 8



- 1 M. 34-19
- 2 Samuel S Antcheson Property
- 3 Montgomery County
- 4 Adrienne Couderc
- 5 February 1996
- 6 PAC Spivey and Company, Tucson AZ 85704
- 7 3911 Sandy Spring Road, Oakbrook #2
- 8 8 of 8